How to prepare for the APICS CPIM exam

PART 2 of a 3-part CPIM series
Tuesday, May 3, 2016

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Senior Director, Certification
Our Presenters

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APICS Senior Director, Professional Development
- 25 years as a Supply Chain professional (Practitioner and Consultant)
- Former APICS volunteer, instructor and BOD Chair
- 9 years on staff, responsible for courseware and instructor development

Lisa Sallstrom, CAE, PMP
APICS Senior Director, Certification
- 7 years on staff, responsible for Certification exam development, committee management and worldwide operations
- 12 years of Certification Association Leadership
- Holds a Master’s degree, Six Sigma Green Belt, Project Management Professional (PMP) and Certified Association Executive (CAE)
What we’ll cover today

- About APICS and APICS certification
- Supply Chain Outlook
- What to look for in review materials
- APICS CPIM preparation resources
- Steps to successful exam preparation
- Delivery methods
- Study tips
- Additional study resources
- Special offer
- Q&A
APICS - Leading the industry

APICS is the leading professional associations for supply chain and operations management and the premier provider of research, education and certification programs that elevate supply chain excellence, innovation and resilience.

APICS Products and Services

- Membership
- Research and Publications
- Education
- Certification
# APICS At-a-Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>About APICS</th>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Channel Partners</th>
<th>Certifications / Endorsements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional association</td>
<td>46,000+ members</td>
<td>207 North America chapters</td>
<td>Certified in Production and Inventory Management – (CPIM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000+ active volunteers</td>
<td>100+ countries</td>
<td>103 international channel partners</td>
<td>Certified Supply Chain Professional – (CSCP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>90+ staff</td>
<td></td>
<td>47 countries, 5 continents</td>
<td>SCOR - Professional – (SCOR-P)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Headquartered in Chicago</td>
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<tr>
<td>Founded in 1957</td>
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</table>
# 2014 Ranking of association certifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association/Certification</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>Weighted Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APICS (CPIM/CSCP)</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply Chain Council (SCOR Professional)</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISM (CPSM/CSM/CPSD)</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Manager Professional (PMI)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSCMP (SCPro)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: SCM World’s 2014 ranking of Supply Chain Associations Certification based on participant’s ranking of top 3 associations
Supply chain outlook

- Supply chain is seen as a **strategic asset**. The post-recession global marketplace recognizes supply chain management as a **key driver** of business success and viability.
- Supply chain management is a well-established role in **industries beyond manufacturing**, including retail, health care and technology.
- Supply chain and operations management jobs are **in demand**.
- **200,000** U.S. supply chain jobs will go unfilled annually until 2018 for lack of qualified talent.*

*Georgia Center of Innovation for Logistics, June 28, 2013
Where is your focus?

Inside the four walls of your company?
- Product Forecasting
- Master Scheduling
- MRP
- Scheduling Operations
- Cycle Counting
- Inventory movement
- Receiving
- Capacity Planning

Outside the four walls of your company?
- Supply Chain Design
- Supplier Management
- 3PL, 4PL
- Transportation
- Customs
- Distribution channels
- Customer Management
What to look for in review materials

- Complete and up-to-date content
- Effective learning approach
- Study method that suits your learning style
- Practice questions as reinforcement of concepts
- Opportunities to test your knowledge
- Convenience and flexibility
- Value
APICS CPIM preparation resources

- APICS CPIM Exam Content Manual (ECM)
- APICS CPIM Exam Procedures Bulletin
- APICS Dictionary 14th edition
- Learn It App
CPIM Instructor-Led Resources

- Our most popular way to prepare
- 300+ APICS Chapters all over North America
- Over 100 International Partners all around the world
- 900+ APICS recognized instructors offering APICS Certification review classes with these partners
APICS Partner and Event Finder

Find local APICS partners, courses in your area, partner events and activities, and APICS certification exams.

- Find an APICS partner
- Find an APICS course, partner event or certification exam event

FIND PARTNER OR EVENT  CLEAR FORM

http://www.apics.org/partnerfinder
CPIM Instructor-Led Resources

Instructor-led classes provide:
- structure for your preparation
- Robust discussions about new ideas and methods with your peers
- An opportunity for you to ask questions about new concepts

Participant Workbook and online CPIM Study Tools:
- Designed for instructor-led classroom
- Includes ECM
- Online: Pre-exam, two post exams (untimed and timed) and more
CPIM Instructor-Supported Resources

Fox Valley Technical College
- All online and asynchronous (do your work anytime)
- Structured – work must be completed with certain time periods
- Instructor to review your work, give assignments, answer questions

MGI Home Study Course
- Printed materials with Instructor reviewing assignments and answering questions that are emailed in.
- 800 number when you need help or have a question
APICS CPIM Preparation Resources

**APICS CPIM Self-Study Kit** - This new product presents CPIM information in an easy-to-understand, conversational format. The kit for each CPIM module includes the APICS CPIM Self-Study Guide, Exam Content Manual (ECM) and Exam Simulator. Kits are available in both printed and electronic formats.

**APICS Online Powered by Accenture** - These online courses cover the CPIM body of knowledge in a convenient and flexible format. It includes the APICS CPIM ECM and the Exam Simulator for each module.

**APICS CPIM Exam Simulator** - The exam simulator is designed to prepare and familiarize candidates with the web-based exams for each of the five CPIM modules. With over 300 practice questions per module, the questions are aligned with the current CPIM ECM.
Corporate or group learning

Why choose corporate/group learning?

- Establish a common supply chain platform of understanding, vocabulary, processes and frameworks to address your team’s supply chain-related challenges and opportunities
- Train multiple employees, regardless of geographic location
- Maximize training budget through volume purchasing
- Turn-key program that can be implemented through on-site instructor-led, self-directed learning or through formal/informal study groups

What are the benefits?

- **Convenient delivery options** depending on your group’s size and training goals
- Save money with **discounted volume purchasing**, controlled employee travel expenses and minimal time away from work
- Detailed web-based **group reporting** to track individual and group progress and document results
- Groups of coworkers can save money by purchasing together
Steps to success

1. Plan your Studies
2. Study the Materials
3. Reinforce the Concepts
4. Practice for your Exam
Step 1: Create a study plan

How much time will you need to study?

- 175-225 hour study time investment
  - 50 percent of successful APICS CPIM candidates surveyed said they studied 35 to 50 or more hours (per module)
- 75 percent of candidates take the exam one to three months after completing studies, with 50 percent taking the exam one month after
- Start early
- Assess your areas of strength and weakness
- Learn in segments
- Create a step-by-step plan
- Once you’ve created your plan, stick to it!
### 2016 Computer-based testing (CBT) exam dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>North America</th>
<th>Outside North America</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No windows / year round</td>
<td>19 March – 7 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 June – 2 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13 August – 10 September</td>
</tr>
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<td>29 October – 10 December</td>
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</table>

Visit [apics.org/CPIM-Testing](http://apics.org/CPIM-Testing) to learn more.
Step 2: Study the materials

There is no substitute for studying the materials for each module.
Step 3: Reinforce the concepts

CPIM Participant Workbooks

- Review the reading materials
- Complete the exercises
- Complete the performance checks
- Use the online CPIM Study Tools
Step 3: Reinforce the concepts

CPIM Self-Study Kit

- Review the body of knowledge covered by the exam in the CPIM Exam Content Manual
- Review the self-study guide which guides you through each module with easy-to-understand information
- Practice your exam with the CPIM Exam Simulator with timed and self-paces exams
Step 3: Reinforce the concepts

APICS Online, *powered by Accenture*

- Complete the self-assessment
- Build a custom study plan
- Complete the course material
- Review the body of knowledge covered by the exam in the CPIM Exam Content Manual
- Practice your exam with the CPIM Exam Simulator with timed and self-paces exams
Step 4: Practice for your exam

CPIM Exam Simulator

- Complete the self-paces practice exam
- Review the detailed diagnostic report to determine areas of strengths and weakness
- Review the materials
- Complete the timed exam
- Complete the final exam simulator
Step 4: Practice for your exam

CPIM Study Tools

- Complete the pre-assessment exam
- Determine areas of strengths and weakness
- Review the courseware materials
- Review the session solutions slides
- Complete the online assessments
- Complete the post-assessment timed and untimed exams.
Study tips

- Choose the right study method for your learning style
- Set your exam date to avoid procrastination
- Set a study plan, enter it into your calendar, and commit to it
- Know your strengths and weaknesses
- Study the Exam Content Manual
- Determine your “knowledge gaps” and spend extra study time in these areas.
- Understand how to apply concepts; go beyond memorization
- Be prepared for the testing center and the test format

- **Attend the next webinar, May 17**
  - Taking the APICS CPIM Exam with Confidence
Additional study resources

- APICS test-taking tips
- Techniques for taking APICS exams video
- Learn It App. Available free through the Apple App Store for iPhone and Google Play for Android.
Additional APICS resources

- Take the free CPIM demo
  apics.org/cpim-demo
- Find an instructor-facilitated course
  apics.org/partnerfinder
- CPIM certification program
  apics.org/cpim
- APICS Supply Chain Channel
  apics.org/community/apics-supply-chain-channel
- Contact APICS
  apics.org
Special Webinar Offers

Enter promotion code: CPIM2016

- **CPIM Online – Powered by Accenture**
  - Order any APICS CPIM module and save $50.00 USD!

- **CPIM Participant Workbook**
  - Order the eDownload version of any APICS CPIM Participant Workbook and save $25.00 USD!

- **CPIM Self-Study Kit**
  - Order the eDownload version of any APICS CPIM Self-Study Kit and save $10.00 USD!

Offer valid through May 31, 2016
Q&As

- Please submit your questions by selecting the questions tab on the toolbar on the right-side of your screen. Enter your question, and click “Send”
- A copy of the webinar recording and materials will be forwarded after this webinar and will be available on apics.org

To contact APICS:
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Phone: 1-800-444-2742 or +1-773-867-1777
2016 three-part CPIM webinar series

Part 3: Taking the APICS CPIM Exam with Confidence
- May 17, 2016

Register today at apics.org/CPIM-Webinars-2016

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APICS Senior Director, Certification

Liezl Smith, CPIM, CIRM, CSCP, ACPF, CDDP
Director & Owner, Businessix Business Consultants
Thank You!

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